

blinded them. If they enter France they will find their graves. Soldiers, we have forced marches to make, battles to fight, dangers to encounter, but with constancy the victory will be ours; the rights, the honour, of our country will be reconquered. For every Frenchman who has courage the moment has come to conquer or to die i

15th, Charleroi, 11 A. M.~.

Good-morning, Ney, I am glad to see you. You can assume command of the 1st and 3d corps. Push the enemy back along the Brussels road and take position at Quatre Bras.

*Evening:*

The army has forced the passage of the Sambre near Charleroi and is throwing out pickets midway between Charleroi and Namur, and Charleroi and Brussels. We have captured 1500 prisoners and six guns. Four Prussian regiments have been routed. The Emperor, who has been in the saddle since 3 A. M., has come in very fatigued. He has thrown himself on a cot to rest a few hours, and will be in the saddle again! at midnight. We may have serious fighting to-morrow.

General Gerard reports that Lieutenant-General Bour-mont, Colonel Clouet, and Captain Villoutreys have deserted to the enemy.

16th. (To Ney.) I am sending you my aide-de-camp, General Flahault, with this letter. The chief of staff should have sent you orders, but you will get mine more quickly because my officers ride faster than his.

I am moving the Guard to Fleurus, and shall be there